

Message Text

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62

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TO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065032

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CAMBODIAN CATHOLIC PRELATE TO THE US

1. KHMER AMBASSADOR UM SIM INFORMS US THAT HE HAS JUST RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM FATHER CHARLEBOIS OF CRS THAT MONSEIGNEUR TEP IM, OF BATTAMBANG, IS EXPECTED SHORTLY IN THE US FOR A VISIT. TEP IM IS APPARENTLY THE CAMBODIAN BISHOP OF BATTAMBANG, AND IS BEING SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH SENATOR KENNEDY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. WHILE IN THE US HE WILL STAY AT UM SIM'S RESIDENCE.

2. WE BELIEVE THE VISIT OF A SENIOR CAMBODIAN CATHOLIC COULD BE SALUTARY, PARTICULARLY WITH THE ANNUAL REFUGEE SUBCOMMITTEE HEARINGS AROUND THE CORNER. UM SIM HIMSELF WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE GOOD USE OF THE MONSEIGNEUR AMONG HIS OWN CONTACTS.

3. AS NO INFORMATION ON FILE HERE AND WE DO NOT WISH TO QUERY FATHER CHARLEBOIS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY BIO AVAILABLE ON FATHER TEP IM AND ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE NATURE AND PURPOSES OF HIS VISIT. RUSH

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